

## 8th Grade STEM/Computers Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** STEM/Computers

**Grade Level(s):** 8

**Instructor:** Ms. Kirsten Maronde  
Plan Period: 7th hour  
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### **Course Description:**

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) students will learn inquiry-based approaches to address design challenges. In class, students will problem solve, discovery, explore, and innovate through the different academic content areas. Students will explore STEM careers and work in groups of 3-5 to create projects based on the STEM careers to explore interests and academic requirements of each field. The library's makerspace area will be utilized as students explore different robots, hands-on activities, and project creations. Design projects will be researched, tested, evaluated, re-designed and tested again. Students will create and share their projects to others after being the developers of their project. We will broaden student understanding of computer science concepts learning about coding, technology, and devices to strengthen this skill.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Keyboarding
- Microsoft Word/Google Docs
- Microsoft PowerPoint/Google Slides
- Microsoft Excel/Google Sheets
- Microsoft Publisher/Google Drawing
- Google Calendar
- Green screen video/photos
- Movie maker
- Code.org
- Scratch
- 3D printing
- Gmail
- Google drive
- STEM activities
- Research
- Community project
- Learning Blade

**Instructional Strategies/Learning Activities:**

*Individual Learning:* Students a majority of the time will complete individual learning where they are working one-on-one on the computer, on online websites, and activities. Learning the basics of keyboarding will be individual and even some projects.

*Lectures and guided practice:* Lectures will be a part of some classes. Lectures will cover the new material along with example problems done as a class.

*Cooperative Learning:* Other activities will be implanted in class as part of supplemental work for the new material and for completing the mastery of the skills and programs learning.

**Student Grade will be based upon:**

Homework will be given as needed and when not completed during class. Projects and tests will be given every lesson unless instructed otherwise. Points will be assigned to each assignment, participation, class work, projects, and tests. Scores will be based on a percentage of points earned out of points possible.

Percent (%)	Grade
96-100	A
90-95	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
59 and below	F

**Make-up work/Late work:**

Each student is responsible for his/her own work. Missed work must be completed within 2 days of the day missed or the points will not be rewarded.

**Classroom Expectations:**

1. Be responsible
2. Be respectful
3. Be courteous
4. Be cooperative
5. Be truthful